

Technology in Rural Transportation

A recent study documented more than eighty proven, cost-effective, “low-tech” solutions to rural transportation needs, most developed or implemented by local transportation professionals. One of these solutions is outlined below:



Learn all about the simple solutions on the Internet at <http://inform.enterprise.prog.org>

The simple solutions report is available from Hau To at (503) 892-2533, or email: to@crc-corp.com

Traffic Signal Failure Alert by Pager

Overall goal:

To improve response time to signal failures by alerting technicians directly, rather than waiting for a citizen to call it in.

Technical approach:

During summer storms, power outages occur, causing signals to go black or flash. Prior to the pager alarm system, citizens had to notify police, who would send an officer to direct traffic. The officer would then page the technician. When a signal goes out, it sends an alert to the signal system computer, which uses a phone line and modem to send an alphanumeric page directly to the technician. This in turns alerts the police department.

Current status:

The City of Scottsdale, Arizona has deployed pager alerts on a number of traffic signals.

Location / geographic scope:

City of Scottsdale, Arizona.

Agencies involved:

City of Scottsdale Traffic Signal Maintenance Department.

Cost information:

Cost was minimal, since the computer and pagers had already been purchased.

Key contacts:

Dan Edwards, 480-312-5637 or Eric Snyder, 480-312-5635.

Have goals been achieved?

The system provides faster notification of a malfunction, increased safety to motorists, and decreased liability to City and taxpayers.

Solution timeline:

Project has been deployed.

